

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Please cancel claims 32-38, 40, and 74-86 without prejudice.

Listing of Claims:

1-38. **(Canceled)**

39. **(Currently amended)** A method for assessing an effect of an agent on arterial smooth muscle cells, comprising

a) adding said agent to arterial smooth muscle cells expressing Ephrin B2, ~~wherein said agent binds to Ephrin B2~~; and

b) comparing the effect of said agent on said arterial smooth muscle cells with a suitable control,

wherein comparing the effect comprises:

(i) measuring Ephrin B2 gene expression;

(ii) detecting Ephrin B2 binding to an EphB4 receptor; or

(iii) measuring Ephrin B2 activation or inhibition.

40-72. **(Canceled)**

73. **(Previously presented)** A method of claim 39, wherein the suitable control comprises arterial smooth muscle cells in the absence of said agent.

74-88. **(Canceled)**

89. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 39, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of an antibody and an antigen-binding fragment thereof.

90. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 39, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a peptide, a polypeptide, a peptoid, a sugar, a hormone, and a nucleic acid molecule.

91-92. **(Canceled)**

93. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 90, wherein the agent is a polypeptide comprising an extracellular domain of EphB4.

94. **(Canceled)**

95. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 39, wherein the agent comprises a label selected from the group consisting of a fluorescent label, a colorimetric label, an enzyme label, an affinity label, an epitope label, a spin label, and a chemiluminescent group.

96. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 39, wherein the arterial smooth muscle cells are cells of an arterial smooth muscle cell line.

97. **(New)** The method of claim 39, wherein Ephrin B2 gene expression is measured by monitoring expression of an indicator gene that is inserted in the Ephrin B2 gene.